

**SUISUN/SOLANO WATER AUTHORITY (SSWA)
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING
PROPOSED WATER RATES FOR 2024-2027**

Suisun/Solano Water Authority (SSWA) has set a public hearing to consider adoption of new rates and charges for water delivery and service in its service area (water rates).

Public Hearing Date

Monday, January 13, 2025, 6:00 PM
City of Suisun City – City Hall
701 Civic Center Boulevard - Suisun City

Para español, consulte: www.suisun.com
Para sa Tagalog, Pakitingnan ang: www.suisun.com
如需中文版本, 請參閱: www.suisun.com

In accordance with Article XIII D, Section 6, of the California Constitution (also known as Proposition 218), you have the right to submit a written protest against the proposed water rates prior to or during the public hearing. The proposed rates will not take effect if SSWA receives written protests from a majority of the affected property owners and customers.

Written protests must be mailed to SSWA Board Secretary at 701 Civic Center Blvd., Suisun City, CA 94585, or hand delivered to SSWA representatives before the close of public testimony at the January 13, 2025, hearing to be counted.

Protests may not be delivered electronically or verbally, and they must be physically received by SSWA prior to the close of the public testimony at the hearing. Postmarks are not sufficient.

Any written protest must:

- 1) State that the identified property owner or customer is in opposition to the proposed rate increases;
- 2) Provide the location of the identified parcel (by the assessor’s parcel number, street address, or customer account); and
- 3) Include the name and signature of the person submitting the protest.

A protest ballot is provided at the end of this Notice and only one protest submitted per property will be counted.

***Mail Protest Ballot to: SSWA Board Secretary
701 Civic Center Boulevard
Suisun City, CA 94585***

Although oral comments by the public at the Public Hearing are welcome, such oral comments will not qualify as a formal protest unless accompanied by a written protest.

If SSWA adopts the new rates, there is a 120-day statute of limitations for challenging any new, increased, or extended rate, fee, or charge under Government Code section 53759. This limitation applies to the water rates proposed in this Notice and to future water rate changes.

Comparison of Existing and Proposed New Water Rates, Standard Rates (Standard Water Rates):

Suisun/Solano Water Authority							
Current and Proposed Water Rates							
These Rates Apply to All SSWA Ratepayer							
Bi-Monthly (every 2 mos) FIXED CHARGE, by meter size	Current Rates	Proposed Rates			% Increase Year Over Year		
		FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26	FY 2026/27	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26	FY 2026/27
5/8 x 3/4 and 3/4 inch	\$63.47	\$68.87	\$74.73	\$81.09	8.5%	8.5%	8.5%
1 inch	\$100.80	\$109.27	\$118.57	\$128.66	8.4%	8.5%	8.5%
1 1/2 inch	\$125.69	\$136.20	\$147.79	\$160.37	8.4%	8.5%	8.5%
2 inch	\$250.13	\$270.88	\$293.93	\$318.95	8.3%	8.5%	8.5%
3 inch	\$399.46	\$432.49	\$469.29	\$509.23	8.3%	8.5%	8.5%
4 inch	\$623.45	\$674.91	\$732.34	\$794.67	8.3%	8.5%	8.5%
6 inch	\$1,245.64	\$1,348.29	\$1,463.00	\$1,587.53	8.2%	8.5%	8.5%
VOLUMETRIC CHARGES: All water usage is \$ per ccf (1 ccf = 748 gallons)							
Rate per ccf	\$3.10	\$3.05	\$3.31	\$3.59	-1.6%	8.5%	8.5%

The bi-monthly water bills (which cover two months) contain two (2) core elements: (1) a fixed charge to cover the costs to treat and store water and have water available for delivery; and (2) a volumetric charge to cover the costs of delivering water on demand based upon the quantity of water used.

Specific water bill increases for individual customers will vary based on the amount of water consumed. Your current water bill will indicate your fixed charge (based on water meter size) and the amount of water consumed (the volumetric charge). You may also go to the City's website (<https://www.suisun.com/Departments/Finance-Department/Pay-my-water-bill>) and review your historic water usage online.

Proposed Alternative Demand Reduction Rates:

Suisun/Solano Water Authority			
Proposed Demand Reduction Rates			
Volumetric For All SSWA Ratepayers			
	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26	FY 2026/27
Conservation Goal			
0%	\$3.05	\$3.31	\$3.59
Up to 10%	\$3.37	\$3.66	\$3.98
Up to 20%	\$3.77	\$4.10	\$4.45
Up to 30%	\$4.29	\$4.66	\$5.06
Up to 40%	\$4.97	\$5.40	\$5.87
Up to 50%	\$5.93	\$6.45	\$7.01

In addition to the proposed Standard Water Rates described in this Notice, SSWA is proposing Demand Reduction Rates. SSWA is obligated to meet the annual revenues needed to operate the water treatment and delivery systems even if water consumption levels decline due to conservation or other unexpected event (e.g., unseasonal weather, natural disasters, etc.). SSWA developed the Demand Reduction Rates so that if total consumption should decline due to an increase in conservation required by the State, or another regulatory agency, or if the SSWA Board of Directors (the Board) declares that SSWA is in more severe drought stages, the Board can implement the Demand Reduction Rates to help make sure sufficient funds are available to operate SSWA's facilities and provide its customers with water.

Reason and Basis for the Proposed Rates

Every day, SSWA treats (converts untreated surface water to potable water at its Cement Hill Water Treatment Plant) and delivers high quality potable water to approximately 8,084 single family homes and 428 multi-family and non-residential uses.

The water is obtained from Lake Berryessa by both the City of Suisun City and the Solano Irrigation District in a partnership forming SSWA. SSWA's operations is funded by the water rates customers pay. SSWA's systems treat and convey potable water 24 hours a day. SSWA rates reflect the actual cost of operating, maintaining, and upgrading the water system. Water rates cannot be expended for any other purpose.

To continue delivery of the potable water that the SSWA customers depend on for their quality of life, SSWA must increase water rates to keep up with the cost of doing business. Therefore, SSWA is proposing to increase water rates as of the bi-monthly billing commencing on February 16, 2025.

SSWA recently updated its multi-year financial plan by conducting a comprehensive cost-of-service water rate study. An independent rate consultant prepared the Water Rate Study, entitled *Water Rate Study for the Suisun/Solano Water Authority*, May 2024. The Water Rate Study along with related staff reports that further describe the increase calculations and reasons for the increases are available for public review at the Suisun City Civic Center, 701 Civic Center Blvd. or at www.suisun.com.

We Value Your Input

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact:

- Elizabeth Luna, Finance Manager (707) 421-3215, eluna@suisun.com
- Cammie Morin, Finance Director (707) 455-4008, cmorin@sidwater.org

Your Rates Pay For:

- 24 / 7 Operations
- Routine Maintenance & Emergency Repairs
- Infrastructure Improvements
- Conveyance & Treatment
- Regulation Compliance

PROTEST BALLOT

Written Protests must be mailed in an envelope or delivered to:
SSWA Board Secretary, 701 Civic Center Boulevard, Suisun City, CA 94585

I _____ oppose the proposed rate increases.
(please print your name)

Assessor Parcel Number *or* Address _____.

Signature: _____
(Original Signature Required)

Properly completed written protests will be accepted up until the close public testimony at the January 13, 2025, hearing. Only one protest per property will be counted. The Protest Ballot may be changed, or withdrawn, by the person who submitted the Protest Ballot prior to the conclusion of the public testimony at the January 13, 2025, public hearing.